

CLAIMS

1. A body taste enhancer for food or drink comprising a peptide having glycine and L-proline as the first and the second amino acids from the N-terminal, respectively, and having a molecular weight of 1000 or less, as an active ingredient.

2. The body taste enhancer according to claim 1 wherein the peptide consists of amino acids of 3, 6, or 9 residues.

3. The body taste enhancer according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the third amino acid from the N-terminal of the peptide is L-hydroxyproline or L-alanine.

4. The body taste enhancer according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein one-third or more of the amino acids constituting the peptide is glycine.

5. The body taste enhancer according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the peptide consists of an amino acid sequence represented by Gly-Pro-3Hyp, Gly-Pro-4Hyp, or Gly-Pro-Ala.

6. A food or drink comprising the body taste enhancer according to any one of claims 1 to 5 added thereto.

7. A seasoning comprising a peptide having glycine and L-proline as the first and the second amino acids from the N-terminal, respectively, and having a molecular weight of 1000 or less, as an active ingredient.

8. The seasoning according to claim 7 wherein the peptide consists of amino acids of 3, 6, or 9 residues.

9. The seasoning according to claim 7 or 8 wherein the third amino acid from the N-terminal of the peptide is L-hydroxyproline or L-alanine.

10. The seasoning according to any one of claims 7 to 9 wherein one-third or more of the amino acids constituting the peptide is glycine.

11. The seasoning according to any one of claims 7 to 10 wherein the peptide consists of an amino acid sequence represented by Gly-Pro-3Hyp, Gly-Pro-4Hyp, or Gly-Pro-Ala.

12. A food or drink comprising the seasoning according to any one of claims 7 to 11 added thereto.

13. A method of enhancing body taste of a food or drink, which comprises adding a peptide having glycine and L-proline as the first and the second amino acids from the N-terminal, respectively, and having a molecular weight of 1000 or less, to the food or drink.

14. The method according to claim 13 wherein the peptide consists of amino acids of 3, 6, or 9 residues.

15. The method according to claim 13 or 14 wherein the third amino acid from the N-terminal of the peptide is L-hydroxyproline or L-alanine.

16. The method according to any one of claims 13 to 15 wherein one-third or more of the amino acids constituting the peptide is glycine.

17. The method according to any one of claims 13 to 16

wherein the peptide consists of an amino acid sequence represented by Gly-Pro-3Hyp, Gly-Pro-4Hyp, or Gly-Pro-Ala.